



NEWS

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First McLean County H1N1 Fatality

BLOOMINGTON- McLean County has its first confirmed death due to H1N1 influenza. A 56-year-old female died on October 22nd. She was admitted to the hospital on October 16th and transferred to the Intensive Care Unit on October 19th. The McLean County Health Department communicable disease staff followed up with the hospital and learned that the woman had underlying medical conditions.

Twenty-two cases have been confirmed in McLean County since April 2009 and influenza like illnesses continue to rise. McLean County Health Department Administrator Walter Howe reminded residents that they should be diligent and take the proper precautions during this influenza season. "People in the priority groups should be vaccinated when the vaccine becomes available, continue to wash their hands, practice cough etiquette and stay home when sick. It is likely we will see additional cases." Howe said.

Symptoms of H1N1 influenza are similar to seasonal influenza and include: fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Anyone experiencing symptoms should stay home and contact their healthcare provider for medical advice.

For more information, visit www.mcleancountyil.gov/health; www.ready.illinois.gov

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